

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A stereo adapter which is mounted in front of an imaging optical system of a camera to photograph a parallax image of an object and an image including information on at least one of color tone and contrast of the object, the stereo adapter comprising:

an optical system which has two light-receiving modules provided so as to be spaced apart from each other by a predetermined distance in a direction of a base line to receive light from the object and which direct the received light from each of the two light-receiving modules to the imaging optical system of the camera;

a pattern projection module which projects a predetermined pattern onto the object when taking a photograph to obtain distance information on the object; and

a light-emitting module which emits light for illuminating the object with light having no pattern when taking a photograph to obtain information on the at least one of color tone and contrast of the object;

wherein the light-emitting module and the pattern projection module are provided in a space between the two light-receiving modules, such that a shadow of the object formed by light having no pattern from the pattern projecting module and a shadow of the object formed by pattern projection from the pattern projecting module are formed in an occlusion area caused when the parallax image is photographed.

2. (Original) A stereo adapter according to claim 1, wherein said light-emitting module is disposed at an intermediate position between said two light-receiving modules.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 1 further comprising a position changing mechanism which can support said light-emitting module and said pattern projection module in order for their order or positions to be varied in a direction orthogonal to the base line.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 2, wherein the light-emitting module is provided on the base line or above the base line.

13. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 12, wherein the pattern module is provided below the light-emitting module.

14. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 1, wherein the pattern projection module is provided below the light-emitting module.

15. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 2, wherein the pattern projection module is provided below the light-emitting module.

16. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 1, further comprising an inputting module for inputting a photographing timing signal from the camera.

17. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 16, further comprising a processing circuit which alternatively performs light emission by the light-emitting module and pattern projection by the pattern projection module in accordance with an input of the photographing timing signal to the inputting module.

18. (Previously Presented) A stereo adapter according to claim 1, wherein light emission by the light-emitting module and pattern projection by the pattern projection module are performed alternatively.

19. (Canceled)